

I object to the FCC proposal to outlaw use of 121.5MHz aircraft ELT's and to require airplane owners to spend money on 406MHz devices.

As an aircraft owner and pilot, I believe that replacing the current 121.5 MHz ELT System with the proposed 406 MHz system is counterproductive, wasteful, and unnecessary. This proposal is not in the public interest. The major beneficiaries would be the manufacturers of the new equipment, not the owners and pilots that would be forced to buy expensive equipment for little value. Statements from manufacturers should be ignored.

Forcing aircraft owners and operators to acquire unneeded electronic equipment would create undue financial hardship and ground many useful planes.

I, and pilots I know, do not rely on an ELT to be safe. The vast majority of airplane owners only have ELTs to satisfy a law and to keep flying. Their value for safety is very small. All pilots are well aware of the relative safety value of each type of ELT. Pilots know the relative value of each type of ELT and should be allowed to use the ELT that would provide the personal safety they require. Let each aircraft owner choose which type they will use. ELTs are for personal safety. They should fall in the area of personal choice.

Just because a safer ELT has been invented does not justify discarding the existing equipment that works as intended.

The use of 121.5 MHz ELTs should be grandfathered indefinitely where they are presently in use.